a result of ban on mining operation in Bellary-Hospet region of the State in recent time;

(b) if so, whether as a result of shortfall in production, the targets fixed for export of the commodity are not likely to be achieved during the current year and the next two years; and

(c) if not, the action taken proposed to be taken to increase the export of iron-ore in the coming years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exports during the current year may be affected as the mining operations are yet to be resumed by many companies.

(c) Measures to increase export of iron ore include the following apart from efforts to increase the production of iron ore :

1. Review of Infrastructural facilities at Madras and Goa Ports in particular & other Ports in general.

2. Exploring new markets for iron ore.

Mahila Courts in Assam

6508. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the number of Mahila Courts set up in Assam, location-wise so far to deal with the cases related to crimes against women ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): There are no Mahila Courts in Assam.

Joint Venture

6509. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from States to set up Joint Ventures with some of the foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the countries which are intending to set up Joint Ventures in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Data regarding joint venture proposals with different States and foreign countries are not centrally maintained.

Export of Marine Products

6510. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA :
DR. B.N. REDDY :
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV :
SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI K.S. RAYADU

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of marine and meat products exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, till date, country-wise;

(b) the share of States in contributing to the country's marine and meat exports;

(c) whether any complaints has been received from the foreign buyers regarding the poor quality of marine and meat products.

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is great demand of Indian marine and meat products abroad;

(f) if so, the details thereof, item-wise;

(g) the amount of financial assistance given to the exporters for establishing facilities to maintain the quality of these items; and

(h) the steps taken to improve the quality and boost the export of these items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The quantity of marine and meat products exported during the last three years and the foreign exchange earned therefrom is as follows :-

Q: Quantity in M.T. V: Value in Rs. Crores

		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Marine Products	Q:	30337	296277	359730
	V:	3575.27	3501.11	4045.35
Meat Products	Q:	127700	169251	N.A.
	V:	392.93	614.06	832

The country wise details are available in the annual/ monthly number of the Foreign Trade Statistics published